

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/874,680

Examiner

Nhan T. Tran

Applicant(s)

WHITBY ET AL.

Art Unit

2615

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 2/15/2006 and phone interview on 2/27/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 32-59.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, filed 2/15/2006, with respect to claims 32-59 have been fully considered and are persuasive.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Peyton C. Watkins on 2/27/2006.

Regarding **claim 32**, in lines 6-8 of claim 32, the limitations "b) a plurality of differently shaped, removable, replaceable, and wireless inserts each having a docking mating portion on a first side which mates with the insert-receiving portion," have been amended as -- b) a plurality of differently shaped, removable, replaceable, and wireless inserts, each insert having a docking mating portion on a first side which mates with the insert-receiving portion, --.

Regarding **claim 41**, in lines 3-9 of claim 41, the limitations "a) a base portion for the docking station assembly and said base portion includes a notched-out portion mateable with each of a plurality of differently shaped, removable, replaceable and

wireless inserts each insert mating with both the base portion on a first side and each mating with one of a plurality of differently shaped digital cameras on a second side, wherein each second side includes a unique shape corresponding to one of the differently shaped digital cameras.” have been amended as -- a) a base portion for the docking station assembly and said base portion includes a notched-out portion mateable with each of a plurality of differently shaped, removable, replaceable and wireless inserts, each insert mating with both the base portion on a first side and each mating with one of a plurality of differently shaped digital cameras on a second side, wherein each second side includes a unique shape corresponding to one of the differently shaped digital cameras. --.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 32-59 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding independent claim 32, the prior art of record fails to teach or fairly suggest the combination of all limitations for a docking station assembly for receiving a digital camera required in claim 32 that includes “...a plurality of differently shaped, removable, replaceable, and wireless inserts, each insert having a docking mating portion on a first side which mates with the insert-receiving portion, and each insert having a uniquely shaped camera mating portion on a second side and each second side having a shape substantially of a portion of a differently shaped digital camera to which the removable and replaceable insert mates.”

Regarding independent claim 41, the prior art of record also fails to teach or fairly suggest the combination of all limitations for a docking station assembly for receiving a digital camera required in claim 41 that includes “...**said base portion includes a notched-out portion mateable with each of a plurality of differently shaped, removable, replaceable and wireless inserts, each insert mating with both the base portion on a first side and one of a plurality of differently shaped digital cameras on a second side, wherein each second side includes a unique shape corresponding to one of the differently shaped digital cameras.**”

Regarding independent claim 51, the prior art of record also fails to teach or fairly suggest the combination of all limitations for a docking station assembly for receiving a digital camera required in claim 51 that includes “...**a first removable, replaceable and wireless insert having a docking mating portion on a first side mated with the insert-receiving portion, and having a camera mating portion on a second side having a first shape unique to a portion of a first digital camera; wherein the first digital camera is mated to the camera mating portion; and c) a second removable, replaceable and wireless insert substitutable for the first insert, and the second insert includes a docking mating portion on a first side mateable with the insert-receiving portion, and having a camera mating portion on a second side having a second shape unique to a second digital camera which second shape is different from the first shape.**”

Regarding claims 33-40, these claims directly or indirectly depend from claim 32.

Regarding claims 42-50, these claims directly or indirectly depend from claim 41.

Regarding claims 52-59, these claims directly or indirectly depend from claim 51.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nhan T. Tran whose telephone number is (571) 272-7371. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday, 7:30am - 5:30pm.

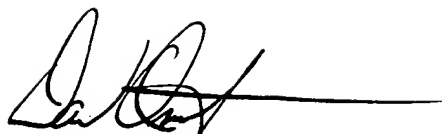
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Ometz can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Ometz', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

DAVID OMETZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER